WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Proposal for fresh survey of the Khurdha Road-Bolangir Rail-Line in Orissa

*4. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government, in view of demand from different sections in Orissa, have considered the proposal for a fresh survey of the proposed Khurdha Road-Bolangir rail-line via Phulbani in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and b) In the survey for Khurda Road-Bolangir rail-line, which was completed in 1986, the proposed alternative alignment via Phulbani was also examined. It was decided not to adopt the latter alignment as it involved steeper gradients, longer length and increased cost.

Work to Rule Agitation by Ground engineers of Air India

*5. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air-India's ground engineers resorted to work to rule agitation recently, completely disrupting Air India flight schedule, causing considerable loss to the exchequer, besides putting the passengers to ransom;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and since when they have been on strike;

(c) what is the number of daily flights cancelled each day by Air India and the total loss suffered so far as a result thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to resolve the issues involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Work to rule and go-slow agitation of aircraft maintenance engineers has affected the operation of scheduled flights of Air India but it has not disrupted their services completely.

(b) To provide more seats to high-yield traffic, the facility of first class travel granted to certain categories of employees was withdrawn. As a result of withdrawal of this facility, the Aircraft Maintenance Engineers Association directed the members to work to rule with effect from 22nd September, 1988.

(c) Between 30th September to 27th October, 1988 48 roundtrip flights have been cancelled and the estimated loss of revenue is expected to be of the order of Rs. 7 crores.

(d) Air India Management has initiated negotiations with Aircraft Maintenance Engineers Association and discussions are still continuing.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में पाकिस्तान द्वारा जम्मू-काश्मीर मामले का उठाया जाना

*6. श्री राम नरेश यादव :

श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पाकिस्तानी प्रतिनिधियों ने संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघ की अक्तूबर, 1988 में हुई बैठक में जम्मू-काश्मीर के मामले को पुन: उठाया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या पाकिस्तान का यह कृत्य भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच हुए शिमला समझौते का उल्लंघन है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध मे पाकिस्तान सरकार से विरोध प्रकट किया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) पाकिस्तान सरकार द्वारा विभिन्न अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मंचों से काश्मीर प्रश्न को उठाने के प्रयास शिमला समझौते का उल्लंघन है ।

(ग) और (घ) उत्तर देने के अपने अधिकार का उपयोग करते हुए हमने यह बात स्पष्ट की कि शिमला समझौते में दोनों देशों के बीच सभी अनसुलझे मसलों को द्विपक्षीय बातचीत और शांतिपूर्ण तरीकों से सुलझाये जाने की व्यवस्था है। पाकिस्तान के प्रतिनिधि द्वारा जम्मू-काश्मीर से संबद्ध तथाकथित मसले के उल्लेख पर भारतीय प्रतिनिधि ने खेद व्यक्त किया।

Development of Indian Roads with the Assistance of International Agencies

*7. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some international agencies have evinced keen interest in funding Indian road development sector;

(b) if so, what are the terms on which such help has been offered for highway development;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some of the projects prepared by the CPWD did not meet the evaluation standards of these agencies; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and b) Yes, Sir. The World Bank with whom a loan agreement for $ 200 million has been finalised charges interest at a variable rate fixed every six months. The current rate is 7.59 per cent. The loan is repayable in half-yearly instalments payable in January and July each beginning from 15 January, 1991 to 15th July, 2005. The Asian Development Bank has also evinced interest in funding road development projects.

(c) The CPWD did not prepare any road project for loan assistance by these agencies.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Poor Performance of sportsmen at Seoul Olympics

*8. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the Indian team in the Seoul Olympics has been very poor and extremely disappointing;

(b) what is basically wrong with India's sports; and

(c) whether there has been a thorough and fresh thinking in this regard; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (c) The XXIV Olympic Games were held at Seoul from September 17 to October 2, 1988. The Indian contingent took part in 11 sports disciplines. The selection of Indian sportspersons was done according to the selection criteria formulated in consultation with the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and National Sports Federations. According to the selection criteria, a sportsperson should have achieved performance equal to or better than the performance returned by the sportsperson who obtained the 6th place in the last Olympics or in the most recently held World Championship,